REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0169810 of Fujimori et al. (hereinafter,

"Fujimori") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,781,658 to Choi (hereinafter, "Choi"). Claim 3 is

objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in

independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant has amended claims 1-3 and 18 and added new claims 21-22. Accordingly,

claims 1-22 are presently pending in this application, of which claims 10-17, 19 and 20 have

been withdrawn from further consideration.

The Objection to Claim 3

Claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be

allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and

any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten claim 3 in independent form. Applicant

respectfully submits that independent claim 3, as amended, is in <u>prima facie</u> condition of

allowance in light of the Office Action's indication of allowable subject matter in this claim.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claim 3 be withdrawn.

All Pending Claims Comply with 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over

Fujimori in view of Choi. Applicant has amended claims 1, 2 and 18 as provided herein. To the

extent that these rejection might be reapplied to the amended claims, Applicant respectfully

traverses these rejections and the Office Action's interpretation of the applied references for the

following reasons.

In embodiments of the present invention as recited in each of independent claims 1 and

18, as amended, a reflective liquid crystal device includes at least a first gap and a data line with

the feature that "the data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first

branch line and a second branch line separated from each other by a second gap under the first

gap." Support for these features is provided at least in FIGs. 10 and 11 in the instant application.

For example, as depicted in FIGs. 10 and 11, the data line 118 between adjacent pixel regions P1

and P2 includes a first branch line 118a and a second branch line 118b.

1. <u>Fujimori does not teach or suggest that the data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first branch line and a second branch line separated from each other by a second gap under the first gap.</u>

The Office Action asserts at page 2 that Fujimori "discloses a reflective liquid crystal

display device comprising a data line (inherently)." (Emphasis added). Assuming that a data line

is inherent in Fujimori, Applicant respectfully submits that Fujimori does not teach or suggest

that "the data line between the first and the second pixel regions comprises a first branch line and

a second branch line separated from each other be a second gap under the first gap."

2. <u>Choi does not teach or suggest that the data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first branch line and a second branch line separated from each other by a second gap under the first gap.</u>

The Office Action asserts at page 3 that <u>Choi</u> discloses "data lines (<u>including branch data lines</u>)." (Emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that, as depicted in FIGs. 3 and 4 of <u>Choi</u>, neither the data line 50 nor the data line 52 of <u>Choi</u> include first and second branch lines separated from each other by a second gap under the first gap.

Thus, the combination of <u>Fujimori</u> and <u>Choi</u> does not teach or suggest the feature that "the data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first branch line and a second branch line separated from each other by a second gap under the first gap" as recited in each of independent claims 1 and 18. As pointed out in MPEP § 2143.03, "[to] establish <u>prima facie</u> obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. <u>In re Royka</u>, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)." Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 11 and 18 are in condition for allowance as patentable over <u>Fujimori</u> in view of <u>Choi</u>.

Applicant further submits that claims 2 and 4-9 are allowable for similar reasons as set forth above with regard to independent claim 1 upon which they depend, and for the additional features they each recite. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-2, 4-9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

New Claims are Patentable

Applicant has added new dependent claims 21-22. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 21-22 are allowable for similar reasons as set forth above with regard to independent claim 1 upon which they depend, and for the additional features they each recite.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, withdrawal of all rejections and objections, and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.
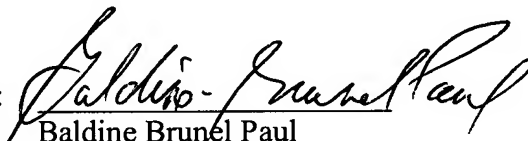
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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